

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

**Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following  
new Abstract of the Disclosure.**

Ink from an ink cartridge is supplied along an ink supply tube to a sub-tank mounted on a carriage. Provided for the sub-tank is an ink level detector constituted by a float member on which a permanent magnet is mounted, and Hall devices. Further, a ink consumption counter is also included for calculating the quantity of ink ejected or discharged by a recording head.

When a low ink state is detected by the ink level detector and when the value held by the ink consumption counter has reached a predetermined ink quantity total, the supply of ink from the ink cartridge to the sub-tank is initiated.